

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated November 12, 2004. Claims 19 to 29, 48 to 58, 77 to 89, 92 and 93 remain pending in the application, with Claims 1 to 4, 6, 7, 9 to 18, 30 to 33, 35, 36, 38 to 47, 59 to 62, 64, 65, 67 to 76, 90 and 91 having been cancelled. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the indication that Claims 19 to 29, 48 to 58, 77 to 89, 92 and 93 are allowable.

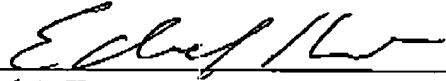
Claims 10 to 18, 39 to 47, 68 to 76 and 91 were subject to a restriction requirement and therefore, were withdrawn from further consideration. Without conceding the correctness of the restriction requirement, the withdrawn claims have nonetheless been cancelled.

Claims 1 to 4, 6, 7, 9, 30 to 33, 35, 36, 38, 59 to 62, 64, 65, 67 and 90 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,625,384 (Numata). Without conceding the correctness of the rejections, the rejected claims have nonetheless been cancelled, thereby obviating the rejections.

In view of the cancellation of the withdrawn claims and the rejected claims, thereby leaving only allowed Claims 19 to 29, 48 to 58, 77 to 89, 92 and 93 pending in the application, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our California office by telephone at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



Edward A. Kmett
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 42,746

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3801
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

CA_MAIN 91999v1